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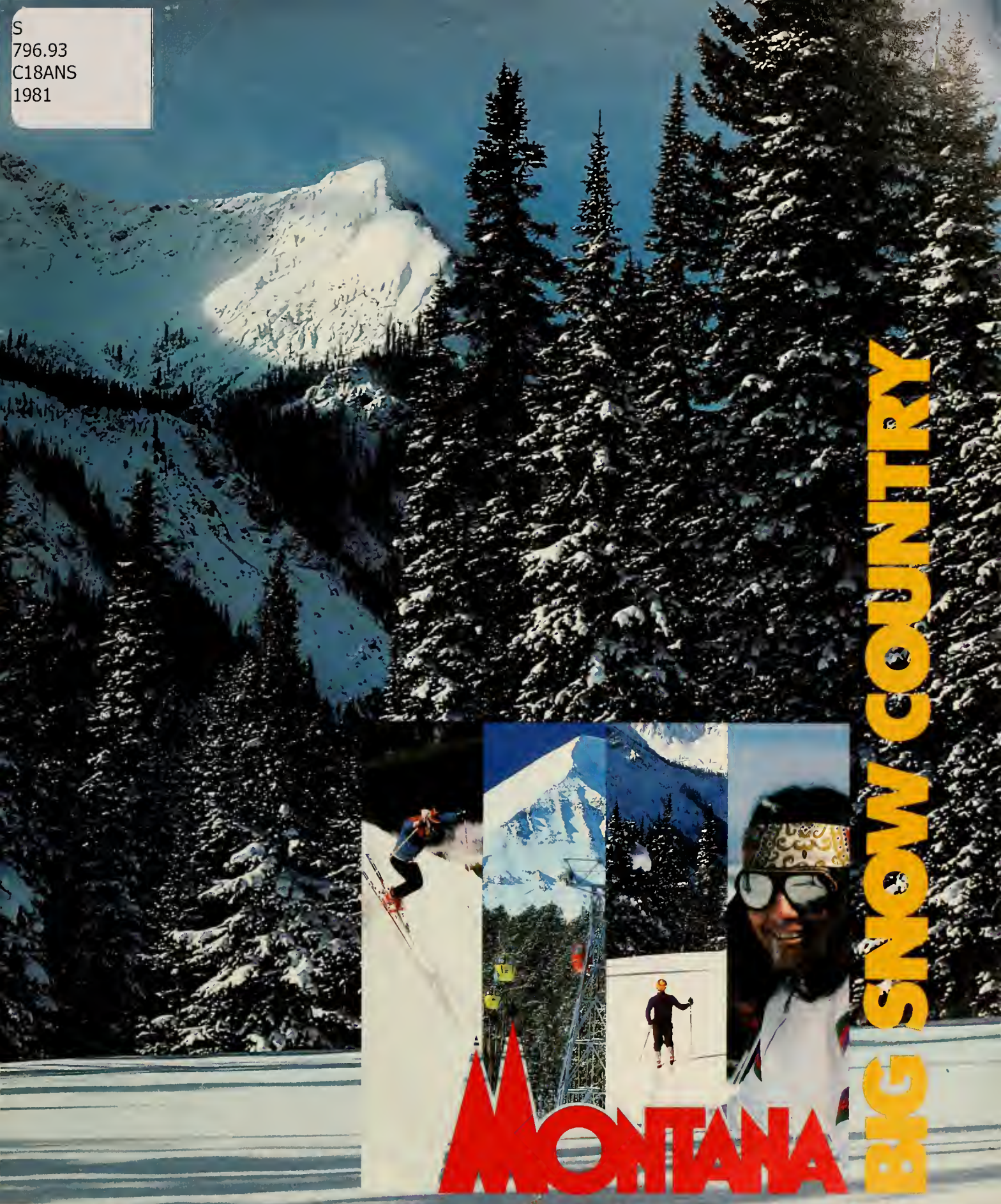

BIG SNOW COUNTRY

MONTANA

ALPINE AND NORDIC SKIING GUIDE

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The Rocky Mountains cut magnificently along western Montana, defining the shape and character of the state and, incidentally, giving Montana its name — Montana means "mountain" in Spanish. The Rockies, rooted far to the south where they loom more often as individual peaks and ranges, are going strong by the time they trumpet through Montana to fling themselves north to Canada. Montana's vast landscape lets you see hundreds of miles of them at once in one triumphant thrust of mountains.

These northern Rockies of Montana do more than make dramatic sunsets. They grab clouds eastbound from the Pacific and wring moisture from them. Moisture falling as rain along that great Continental Divide mountain barrier flows from the eastern slopes through creeks and rivers to Hudson's Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, and from the western drainages to the Columbia River and through the Columbia back to the sea. In winter, the moisture falls as snow — deep northern Rockies powder that is perfect for surfing through on skis.

You can ski Alpine down these famed and fabled mountains, at a big-name ski resort or from a cozy hideaway that the rest of the world hasn't claimed yet. Clamp on cross-country skis and go Nordic on flat tracks or telemark hills, either on your own or at a resort just right for skinny skis. Climb on a snowmobile and rev up for a winter adventure in a town that comes alive for winter with as much as 12 feet of snow to play in. Ski into Glacier National Park, or take a winter trip to see Old Faithful erupting in frosty air at Yellowstone. Go ice fishing — not for ice, but for fish so big you'll wish you had augered the hole just a little bigger. Ski out of a hot springs resort so you can ski back and soak in a hot pool. Take a sleigh ride in the moonlight, or sled down a hill, or build a snowman, or write your own winter-fun menu. In Montana, winter is good — and good for you.

Montana usually greets winter by Thanksgiving, and skiing can last well into the spring season. This fourth largest state ranks 43rd in population, so there are no crowds, no lift lines, no waiting, no elbows in your ribs. But don't get the idea that it's lonesome — because the people you ski with and throw snowballs at are friendly folks who laugh easy and are inclined to say hello first.

And a good time in Montana costs less than you expect. Lift tickets, accommodations, ski instruction, meals, rental equipment — all are priced lower than they are almost anyplace else. Montana is easy to find, too. Good highways lead into and out of the state and airlines serve Montana's major cities, with car rentals and bus services when and where you need them.

For winter enthusiasts, there's one place to remember. It's those Montana Rockies. They're so great to ski down . . . and so hard to forget.

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Cover photo of Republic Mountain near Cooke City by Rick Graetz.
Inset cover photos, from left to right: courtesy of Big Sky; courtesy of Big Sky; by Mike Sample; courtesy of Red Lodge Mountain.
Illustrations by Joe Boddy of Missoula, Montana
Ski Area Maps by Len Eckel, Helena, MT

ALPINE SKIING

Montana keeps its powder dry. And deep. That's what the northern Rockies are famous for: Deep, dry, high mountain powder snow — the kind that is so much fun to ski in that you find yourself wishing the run would go on forever.

There's every kind of terrain to ski on: Long, steep drops to challenge the experts. Exhilarating runs to satisfy average skiers over and over again. And friendly runs and hills to make beginning skiers feel like they've mastered the world and the laws of sitzmarks as well.

Montana offers every kind of resort, too. Stylish spots where the disco goes till dawn, and cozy spots with quiet evenings around a fireplace. Splendid skiing on a mountain just for skiing, with food and lodging down the road. Skiing on a good mountain operated by a ski club that invites you to pay two dollars to join the club and be an owner, too.

Montana is called "Big Sky Country." But in winter that's spelled "Big Ski."

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① The Big Mountain

Snuggled up to the Canadian border and next door to Glacier National Park, The Big Mountain has no trouble living up to the neighborhood. The Big Mountain is on top of Montana, but only eight miles north of Whitefish. Phone 406/862-3511, or write Box 1215, Whitefish, MT 59937.

The ski season goes from Thanksgiving to mid-April, and from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. daily; night skiing from 4:30 until 10 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Take U.S. 93 north from Missoula 137 miles or north from Kalispell 22 miles. AMTRAK serves Whitefish; Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Missoula; Frontier and Republic serve Kalispell. Car rentals are available in Missoula, Kalispell and Whitefish, and a shuttle bus goes to and from Whitefish.

The adult all-lift ticket is $13; $10.75 for students. Credit cards are accepted, and groups are invited to inquire about discounts.

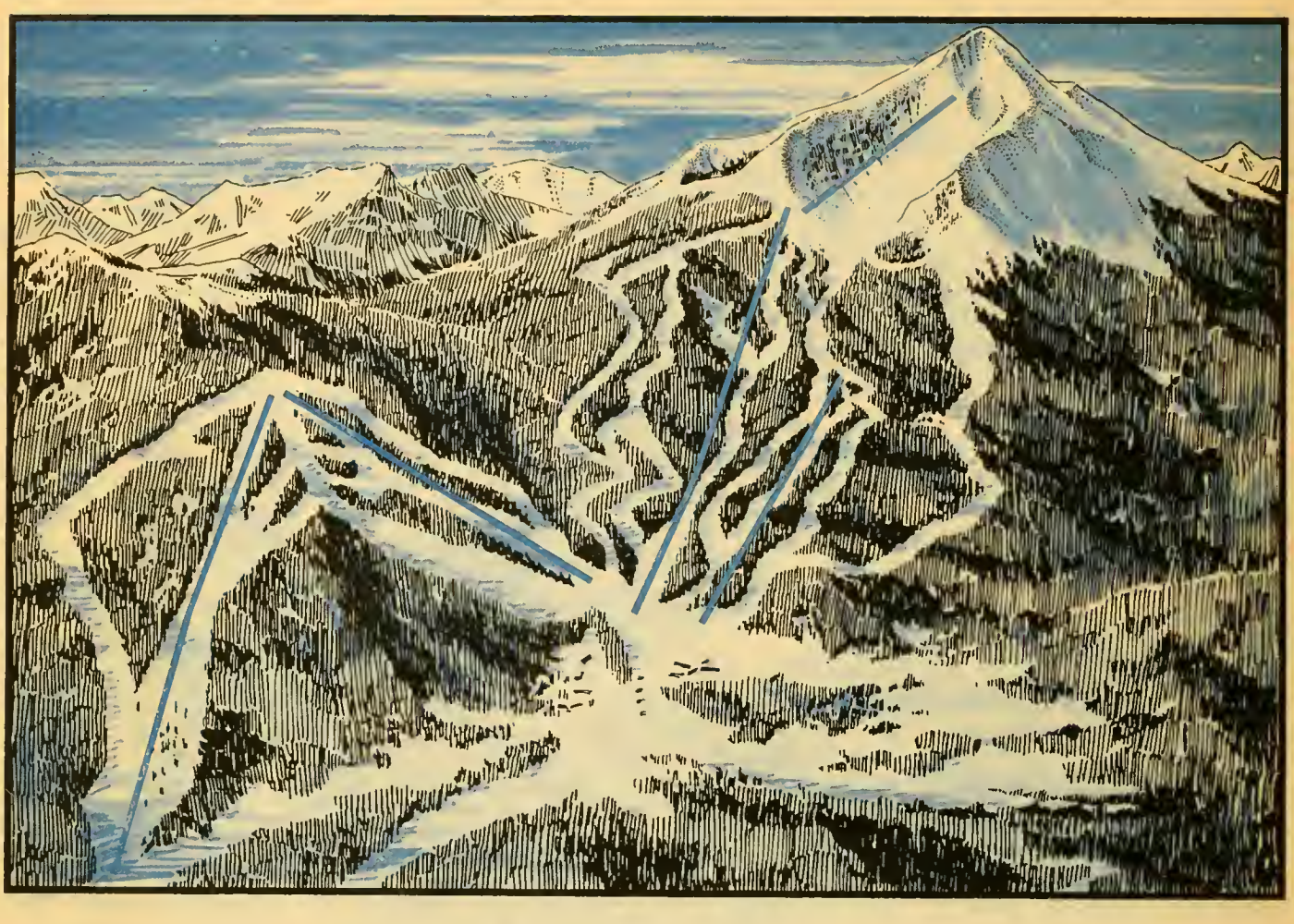
Accommodations, for 950, range from comfortable to deluxe with a heated pool, hot tubs, sauna, five dining rooms, three bars, a ski school, certified ski patrol, and ski sales and rentals. An American Plan ski-week package — five days and six nights, with meals, lift and lodging — is $275 and up per person.

Runs are 25% beginner, 55% intermediate, and 20% expert. There's a rope tow for beginners (675' with a 150' rise); a T-Bar (2050' with a 420' rise); two double chairs — Mid Two (3795' with a 1120' rise) and Big One (6564' with a 1953' rise); and three triple chairs — Triple Three (2408' with a 434' rise), Four East (5376' with a 1822' rise), and new-this-year High Five (2740' with a 840' rise). Elevation is 4700' at the base and 6900' on top.

Get there in February for the Whitefish Winter Carnival — one of the oldest, biggest, merriest and best winter festivals in the nation.

THE BIG MOUNTAIN

② Big Sky of Montana



Dominated by Lone Mountain in the sky-scraper Madison Range, Big Sky of Montana is 43 miles south of Bozeman and 39 miles north of Yellowstone National Park on U.S. 191. The nationwide phone number is 800-548-4486; in-state, phone 995-4211. Write Box 1, Big Sky, MT 59716.

The ski season goes from Thanksgiving to mid-April, with snow-making to insure good early skiing. Ski daily from 9 until 4. Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Bozeman. There are car rentals in Bozeman, and the Yellowstone Park bus from Bozeman makes a stop at Big Sky.

The all-lift and gondola ticket is $18 for adults, $14 for students with school I.D. cards and $13 for children; the chair-lift-only ticket is $16 for adults, $12 for students and $11 for children. Credit cards are accepted, and groups are invited to inquire about discounts. There are three condominium groups, an economy lodge, and 204 rooms in the Huntley Lodge. The resort has seven restaurants and cafeterias including a deli, four bars, dancing in three places, a heated pool, hot tubs and jacuzzis, a certified ski patrol, ski school with Austrian instructors, ski sales and rentals. In Huntley Lodge, rates are $64 per room per night in the low season and $75 per room per night in the high season, double occupancy. The low season runs from opening day through December 18, January 2 through 22, and April 3 to closing. Low season all-area lift pass is $14 for adults and $9 for children.

There are three beginner runs, nine intermediate, seven upper intermediate and five expert. There's a rope tow for learners (250' with a 30' rise); three double chairs — Ram's Head (4645' with a 1163' rise), Explorer (3770' with a 622' rise), and Mad Wolf (6200' with a 1782' rise); a triple chair — Lone Peak, above the gondola (3096' with a 883' rise), and a four-passenger gondola (8668' with a 1525' rise). The longest vertical is from the top of Lone Peak to the base for a sweeping 2408 feet. Elevation at the lodges is 7500 feet; at the top of Lone Mountain you're at 11,166'.

Something lively is going on all the time at Big Sky. From March 19 to the 21st, it's the Oly Days Good-Times Festival.

BIG SKY
MONTANA

❸ Bridger Bowl

Settled into the high-flying Bridger Mountains, Bridger Bowl is famed for its powder skiing — fondly called "cold smoke" by those who ski it regularly. Bridger is 16 miles northeast of Bozeman and a half-mile off Highway 86. Phone 406/587-2111 for reservations, 406/586-2787 for information, or write 15795 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715.

The season goes from mid-December to mid-April, and from 9:30 to 4 weekdays, 4:30 on weekends. Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Bozeman, and there are car rentals and a bus service from Bozeman.

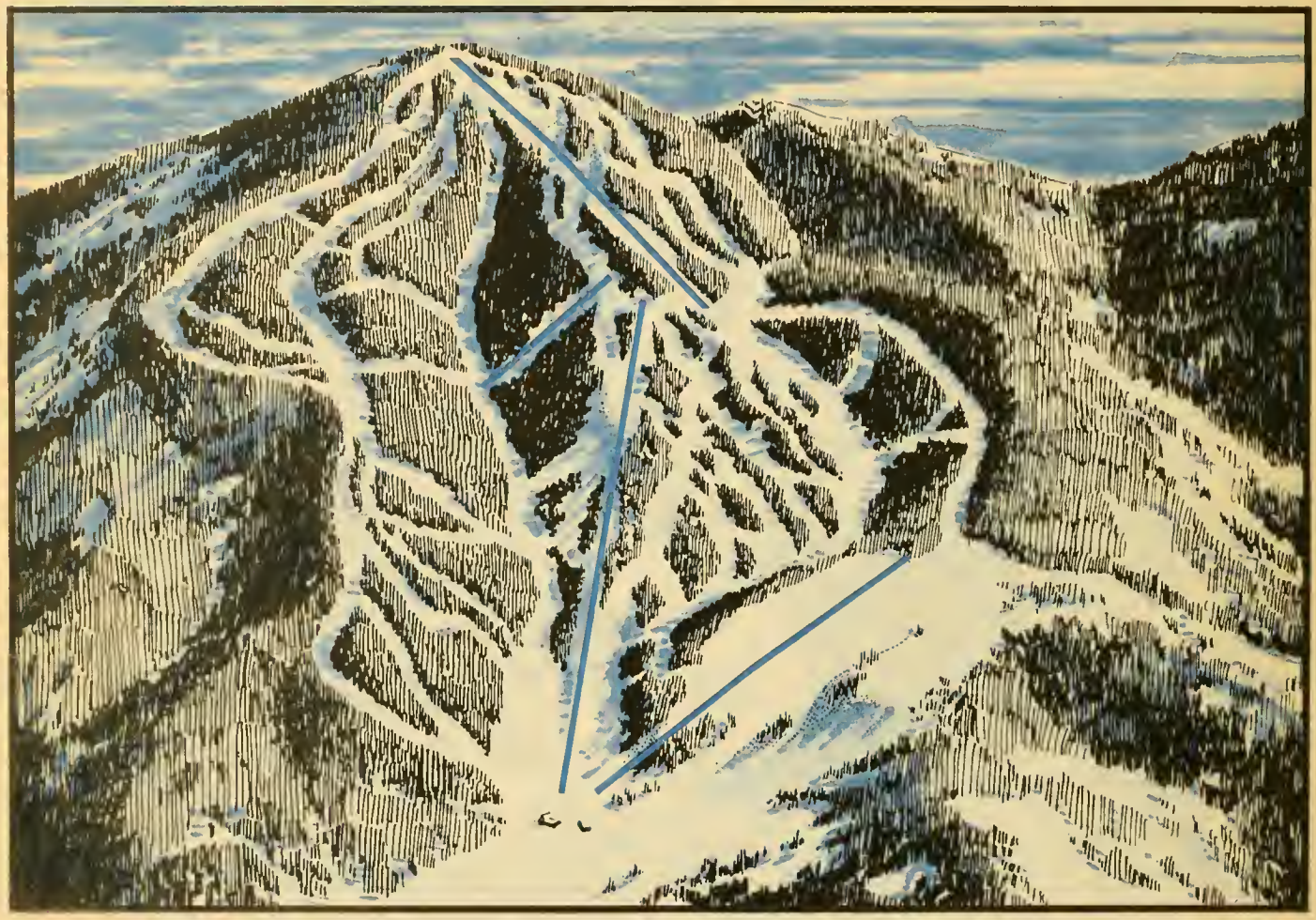
Adults ski all day for $11, and groups are invited to inquire about discounts. A limited number of rooms is available at Bridger Mountain Lodge, with breakfast and dinner served (phone 406/587-3088). There's a full range of motels and restaurants in Bozeman. At Bridger Bowl are a certified ski patrol, ski school, sales and rentals, three restaurants and a bar. Two more restaurants are nearby.

Runs are 25% beginner, 45% intermediate, 30% expert, with bowls, powder glades, trails and groomed slopes. Use a Pony (50' rise), T-Bar (1200' with a 300' rise), or five double chairs — Alpine (7300' with a 1500' rise), Bridger (6100' with a 1800' rise), Deer Park (3200' with a 1100' rise), Pierre's (1200' rise) and Virginia City (500' rise). Elevation is 6100 at the base, 8100 on top.

There's an annual St. Patrick's Day Race that is so much fun it's worth the trip even if you aren't Irish.

Ski BRIDGER

④ Red Lodge Mountain



In Montana's grand Beartooth Mountains, Red Lodge Mountain is 65 miles southwest of Billings and six miles off U.S. 212 at Red Lodge. Phone 406/446-2610, or write Drawer R, Red Lodge, MT 59068.

The ski season goes from Thanksgiving until Easter, and from 9:30 until 4 daily. Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western and Big Sky serve Billings, with car rentals and daily bus service from Billings to Red Lodge.

The all-lift adult ticket is $12 weekends and $11 weekdays, and groups are invited to inquire about special rates. Accommodations and restaurants run a full range at the foot of the mountain in Red Lodge.

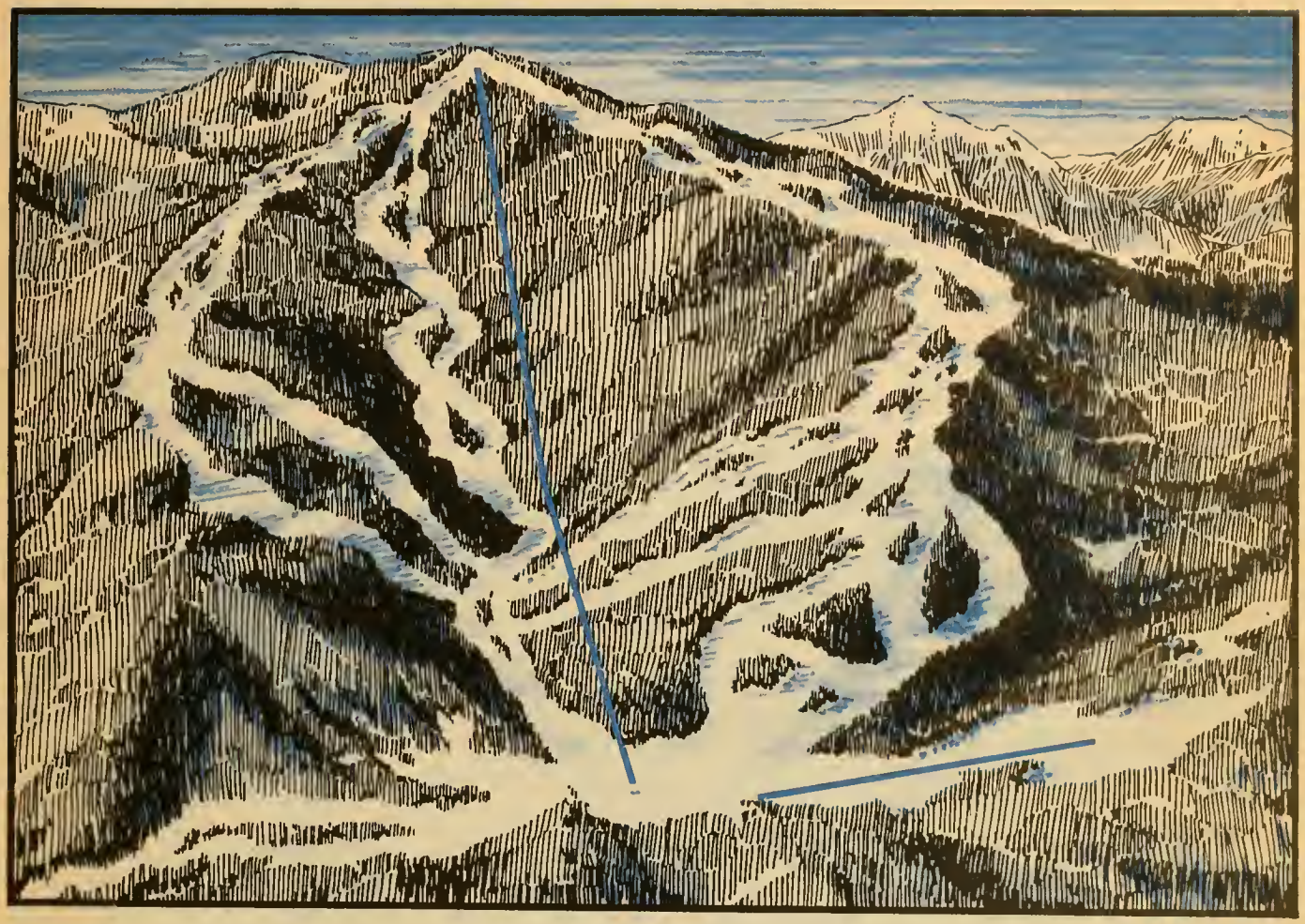
Red Lodge Mountain has 20 mechanically packed and groomed slopes with seven runs for beginners, five for intermediate skiers and eight for experts. Use a Mitey-Mite (360' with a 60' rise), or four double chairs — Willow Creek (3900' with a 1000' rise), Grizzly Peak (3300' with a 1000' rise), Midway Express (2000' with a 600' rise) or Miami Beach (for beginners, 2900' with a 600' rise).

There are good facilities, including a Midway chalet serving food, beer and wine; a summit house; ski sales and rentals; a certified ski school and a ski patrol.

The winter carnival is March 6 and 7 with events such as the annual furniture race, where skiers race in bathtubs and on bunk beds and whatever else looks likely. Two major races are scheduled for 1982 — the Coors Pro Race, February 20-21, and the Three-Jump Jackpot Pro Race, April 10-11.

Red Lodge MOUNTAIN

⑤ Discovery Ski Basin



Claiming some of southwestern Montana's finest mountains, Discovery Ski Basin is 20 miles west of Anaconda and 17 miles south of Philipsburg on Highway 10-A. Phone 406/563-2184 or 1-800-548-3251, or write Discovery at Fairmont Hot Springs, Anaconda, MT 59711.

The ski season goes from November to April with skiing from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Northwest Orient serves Butte, and there's a several-times-daily bus shuttle between the terminal, Fairmont Hot Springs Resort and Discovery Ski Basin. Car rentals are available.

Adults ski all day for $11, credit cards are accepted and groups can inquire about discounts. Accommodations are at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort with four hot mineral pools, a lounge with live music for dancing, restaurant, coffee shop, shops and a sauna. One, five- and seven-day packages are available. There are good groomed runs — one for beginners, three for intermediates, including one for family skiing, a 1¼-mile-long expert run and a racing practice run. Use a Pony (1000' with a 200' rise) and a double chair (5100' with a 1350' rise).

At Discovery are a certified ski patrol and ski school, snow making and snow packing equipment, sales and rentals, a cafeteria and a bar in the day chalet.With new snow making equipment, skiing is assured for Discovery's grand opening Thanksgiving party. Call for information on other festivities that will be held throughout the season.

DISCOVERY
SKI BASIN

⑥ Marshall Mountain

Just four miles east of Missoula, dearly-loved Marshall Mountain runs from Thanksgiving to April with daily skiing from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekends and holidays, day skiing from 12:30 to 4:30 and night skiing from 7 until 10 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Adults ski all day for $9, half-day for $6 and nighttime for $5. Inquire about group discounts. Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Missoula, and there is a shuttle bus from Missoula. Runs are 20% beginner, 50% intermediate, 30% expert, with four rope tows, a Poma, T-Bar and a triple chair. Marshall has a ski school, ski patrol, sales and rentals, a snack bar, two day lodges and child care. Accommodations in Missoula. Elevation is 4000 feet at the base and 5500 on top. Phone 406/258-6619, or write 5250 Marshall Mountain Road, Missoula, MT 59802.

⑦ Maverick Mountain

To get to this zesty mountain, take Highway 278 northwest from Dillon for 38 miles into Montana's historic goldmine country. Maverick runs from Thanksgiving to Easter with skiing from 9:30 to 4:30 Wednesdays through Sundays and on all holidays. Mondays and Tuesdays are reserved for private groups. Adults ski all day for $10. Inquire about group rates. Over 200 acres of slopes, with six runs for beginners and intermediate skiers and two runs for experts. Runs are machine packed. There's a Pony lift and a double chair, certified ski patrol, ski school, sales and rentals, a big lodge with a cafeteria and a bar. Accommodations are nearby at Elkhorn Hot Springs or in Dillon. Elevation is 8600 feet at the lodge, 9200 on top. Phone 406/834-2312 or 406/683-4521, or write Maverick Mountain, Polaris, MT 59746.

⑧ Montana Snow Bowl

Northwest of Missoula 13 miles, Montana Snow Bowl is considered to be one of the best expert skier areas going. The season runs from December to April with skiing Wednesdays through Sundays and Christmas holidays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, weekends from 9:30 to 4. Adults ski all day for $10. Inquire about group discounts. Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Missoula, and there are car rentals in Missoula. Snow Bowl has good beginner and intermediate runs and a jump as well as challenging expert runs. There's a rope tow (2600' maximum rise), T-Bar (3200' with a 600' rise) and a double chair (5500' with a 2000' rise). Snow Bowl offers a certified ski patrol, ski school, sales and rentals, a chalet with a cafeteria, a bar and a warming hut. Accommodations in Missoula. The National Gelende Jump Contest is on Washington's Birthday — February 15. Elevation is 5000 feet at the base and 7600 on top. Phone 406/549-9777, or write Montana Snow Bowl, Missoula, MT 59801.

⑨ Lost Trail Ski Area

Perched on the Montana-Idaho state line 50 miles south of Hamilton, Montana, and 46 miles north of Salmon, Idaho, on U.S. 93, Lost Trail has skiing from Thanksgiving through mid-April Mondays, Fridays, weekends and holidays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Rates haven't been set for 1981-82, but they will be competitive. Inquire about group discounts. Runs are machine packed and groomed for beginners and intermediate skiers, and are designed for family skiing. Use a rope tow for beginners and two double chairs. Lost Trail has a ski patrol, certified ski school, sales and rentals, and a snack bar in the day lodge. Accommodations are six miles north at Lost Trail Hot Springs Resort. Elevation is 7000 feet at the base, 7800 on top. Phone 406/821-3574, or write Box 191, Darby, MT 59829.

10 Showdown

Sixty miles south of Great Falls on U.S. 89 in the Big Belt Mountains, Showdown is the one place its fans believe will have prime snow when the rest of the world has turned to dust. The season goes from November to mid-April with skiing Wednesdays through Sundays and on holidays from 9:30 until 4 p.m. Adults ski all day for $10, those over 55 and under 14 for $7. The lower-lift rate for the Poma is $5. Ask about group discounts. Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western and Big Sky serve Great Falls, there's a weekend and holiday bus service from Great Falls and there are car rentals — also in Great Falls. Showdown has 15 miles of open slope and trail skiing, with mechanically packed runs. Use a rope tow (550' with 100' rise), Poma (1700' with a 350' rise), double chair (6280' with a 1300' rise), and a triple chair (4400' with a 1200' rise). Showdown has a certified ski patrol, ski school, cafeteria and bar; child care is available in Neihart eight miles south. Accommodations are available in White Sulphur Springs, or in package arrangements in Great Falls at the Sheraton, the Heritage, Holiday Inn and O'Haire Manor. Elevation is 7200 at the base, 8200 on top. Phone 406/236-5522, or write Box 92, Neihart, MT 59465.

This skier has the slope to himself except for the "snow ghosts" formed by atmospheric conditions west of the Continental Divide. (Montana Travel Promotion Bureau photo)

⑪ Teton Pass

Teton Pass has good skiing in cowboy country, 32 miles northwest of Choteau. The hill is off Highways 89 and 287, with the route clearly marked. Skiing goes from Thanksgiving to Easter from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Adults ski all lifts all day for $9, and groups are invited to inquire about discounts. Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western and Big Sky serve Great Falls, 55 miles east of Choteau, and car rentals are available there. Teton Pass has six beginner runs and nine intermediate, all machine packed, and six expert runs — one is packed and five are pure powder. Use a rope tow, Mitey-Mite, Poma and double chair. Teton has a certified ski patrol, certified GLM ski school, sales and rentals, cafeteria and a beer/wine bar. Accommodations are in Choteau or at a nearby dude ranch — the 7 Lazy P (phone 406/466-2044). Elevation is 5200 feet at the base, 6800 on top. After October 1, phone 406/466-2672. Write Box 727, Choteau, MT 59422.

⑫ Beef Trail

Just eight miles southwest of Butte, Beef Trail runs from late November to April with skiing from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends and holidays and from 7 until 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Adults ski all day for $5, nights for $3.50. Inquire about college rates and family season passes. Become an owner by joining the Beef Trail Ski Club for $2 and getting your first day of skiing free. With a thousand acres of skiing, there are open runs for beginners and intermediates on machine packed slopes. Facilities and services include a rope tow and a T-Bar, a chalet with a snack bar, a ski school and a ski patrol. Sales, rentals and accommodations are in Butte. Northwest Orient serves Butte, where there are car rentals also. From Butte, take Montana Street south to the end and turn right on Beef Trail Road — eight miles and always plowed. Elevation is 6000 feet at the base, 6800 on top. Phone 406/494-7000, or write 2900 Sheridan, Butte, MT 59701.

⑬ Wraith Hill

Off Highway 10-A, 12 miles west of Anaconda, Wraith Hill runs from January through March with skiing from 9:30 to 4 weekends and holidays. The lift rate for the T-Bar is $5 for all day, $2 for all day on the beginners' rope tow. Runs are mechanically packed and groomed but relatively short, and are designed for beginner through expert. Wraith Hill has a ski patrol, instruction by arrangement, and a snack bar. One of the oldest ski areas in Montana, Wraith Hill has been operated since the early 1930s by the Anaconda Ski Club.

⑭ Turner Mountain

Northwest of Libby 22 miles, Turner Mountain runs from December to March with skiing from 9:30 to 4 weekends and over the Christmas holidays. Adults ski all day for $6.75, juniors ski all day for $4.25. The hill is intermediate to expert, with a rope tow and a T-Bar. Turner Mountain has a ski patrol and a ski school, and a snack bar in the day lodge. Accommodations are in Libby. Take Highway 37 out of Libby to the Pipe Creek Road. Write Turner Mountain, Box 210, Libby, MT 59923.

⑮ Bear Paw

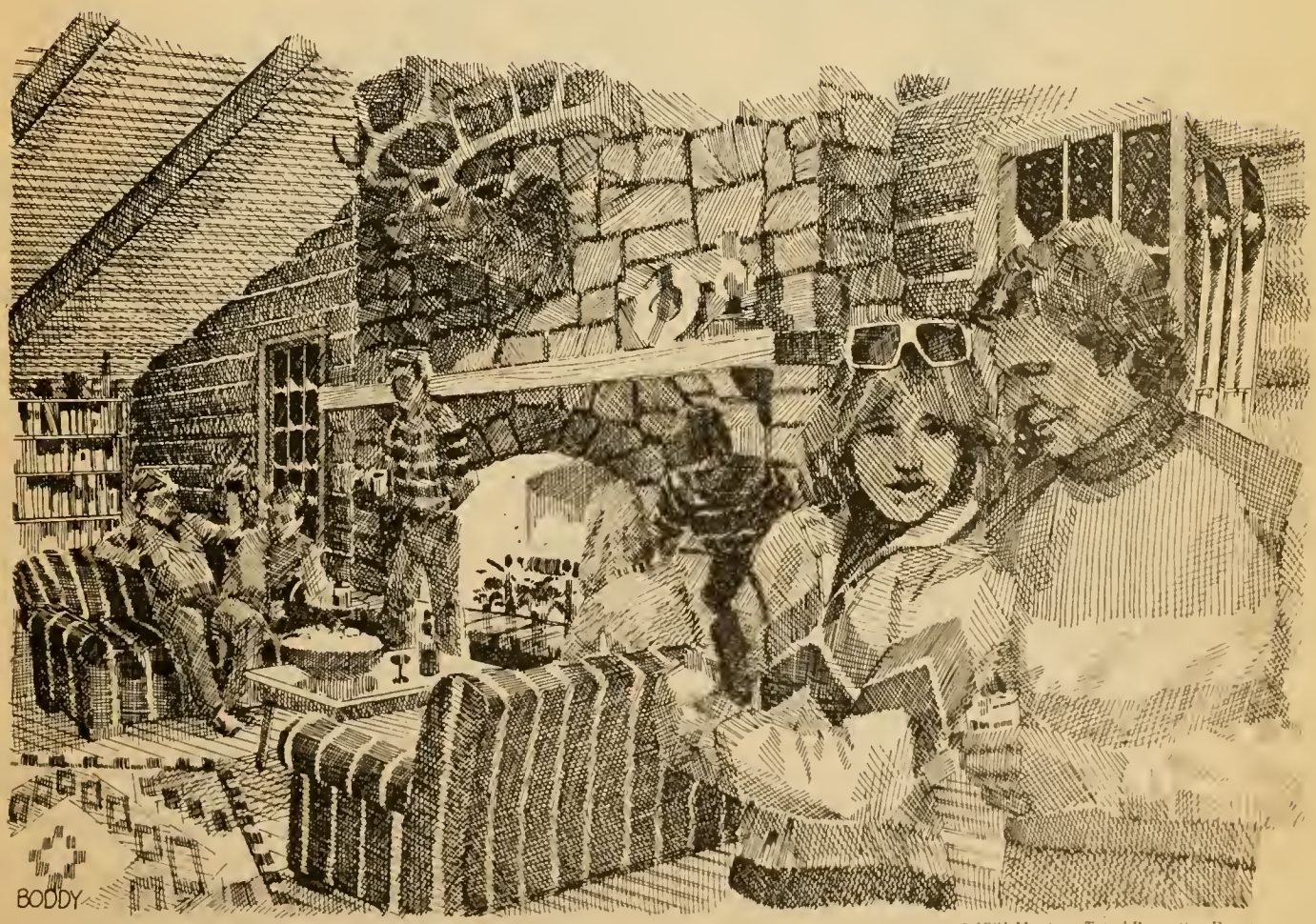
On the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation 30 miles south of Havre, just off U.S. 87, Bear Paw runs from Christmas to early March with skiing from 10 to 4 Thursdays, weekends and holidays. Adults ski all day for $9, kids 14 and under ski for $7. There are eight runs — six intermediate, one beginner and one advanced. Use a Mitey-Mite and a double chair. The hill has a certified ski patrol, instruction by arrangement, snow packing equipment, but no facilities on the hill. Phone 406/395-4291, or write Bear Paw in care of the Chippewa-Cree Tribal Office, Rocky Boy Reservation, Box Elder, MT 59521.

16 Deep Creek

Wise River in southwestern Montana still looks like the trapper and trader rendezvous it was when mountain men roamed for beaver pelts and elk, and that's where Deep Creek runs from January to April with skiing from 10:30 to 4 Thursdays, weekends and holidays. Southwest of Butte 43 miles, Deep Creek has rates of under $10 for adults skiing all day and invites groups to inquire about discounts. Northwest Orient serves Butte, and car rentals are there also. A mile-long beginner run is always groomed, five open runs are for intermediate skiers, and one expert run is steep and not packed. Use a T-Bar — 3000 feet with a 1000-foot rise. Deep Creek has a ski patrol, instruction by appointment and a chalet with a snack bar. Accommodations are nearby at Wise River. Elevation is 6100 feet at the base. Phone 406/839-2129, or write Deep Creek, Wise River, MT 59762.

17 Belmont Ski Area

Northwest of Helena 25 miles and 1.5 miles above the ghost town of Marysville on a well-plowed road, Belmont runs from mid-December to April with skiing from 9:30 to 4 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays and daily on Christmas holidays. Non-members ski all day for $9 for adults and $6 for juniors, $7 half-day for adults and $5 half-day for juniors. Ask about family memberships. Northwest Orient, Frontier and Big Sky serve Helena, and car rentals are available. Runs are 20% beginner, 55% intermediate and 25% expert, all on groomed slopes. Use two rope tows, a Poma and a T-Bar. Belmont has a chalet and snack bar, ski patrol, ski school and a warming hut at the top of the T-Bar. Elevation is 5800 feet at the base, 7300 on top. Accommodations in Helena.



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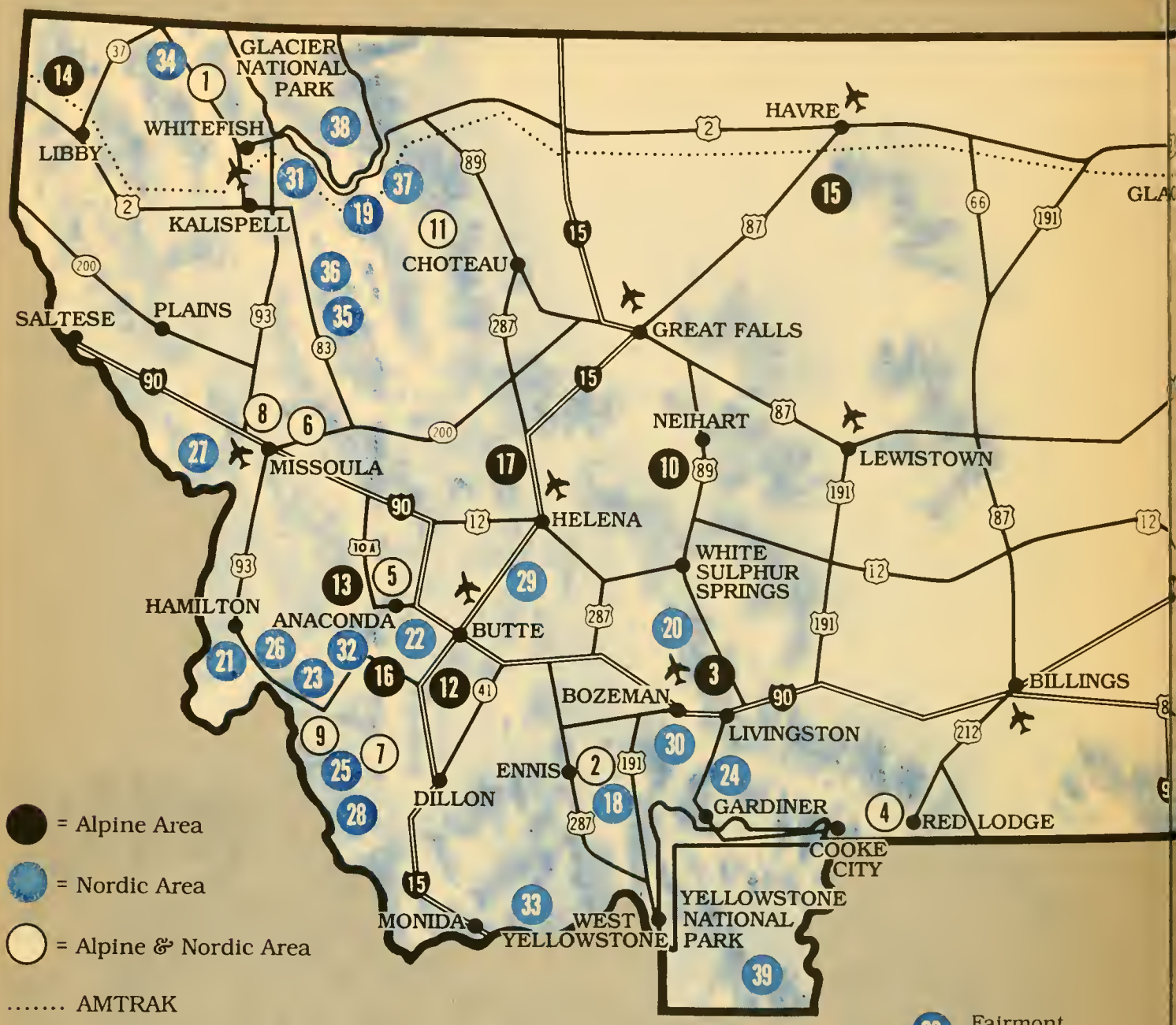

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25. Elkhorn Hot Springs
26. Sleeping Child Hot Springs Resort
27. Lolo Hot Springs
28. Jackson Hot Springs Lodge
29. Boulder Hot Springs Hotel

Getting There

Getting to Montana is easy, even in winter. Good highways lead into and out of the state, AMTRAK serves the northern route, bus companies and car rentals exist in quantity, and major airlines serve major cities with smaller airlines making good connections.

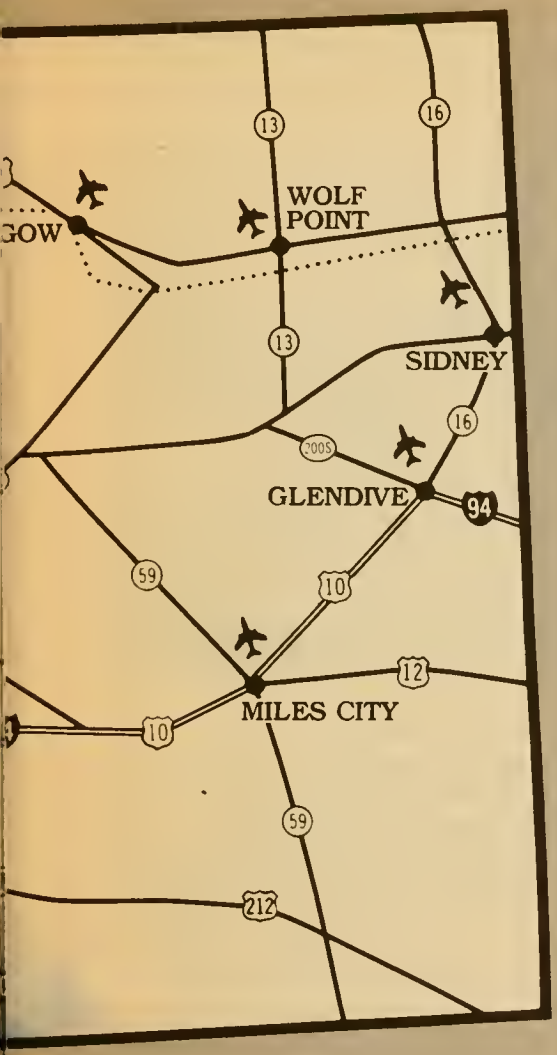
Highways are plowed and are sanded and gravelled when necessary. Motorists can get weather information and up-to-the-minute road condition reports on all radio stations every morning, with current information broadcast frequently throughout the day. in the state, phone toll-free 1-800-332-6171 for the latest road conditions; out-of-state, phone 406/449-2675. Latest road conditions for roads within about a 100-mile radius of each of the following cities can be obtained by phoning 406/252-2806 for Billings; 406/586-1313 for Bozeman; 406/494-3666 for Butte; 406/453-2231 for Great Falls; 406/449-2641 for Helena; 406/755-4949 for Kalispell, and 406/728-8553 for Missoula.

AMTRAK serves the northern part of the state with stops at Libby, West Glacier, Whitefish, Glacier Park and points east. Call AMTRAK at 1-800-421-8320 for additional information.

Scheduled airline service is via Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier and Big Sky to Billings and Great Falls; Northwest Orient, Frontier and Big Sky to Helena; Northwest Orient and Frontier to Bozeman and Missoula; Northwest Orient to Butte, and Frontier and Republic to Kalispell. All major ski resorts and some of the smaller ski areas have buses or shuttle service from terminals to the ski areas.

Car rentals are in most cities, with Avis, Budget, Hertz and National serving Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell and Missoula; Avis, Budget and Hertz serving West Yellowstone; Budget and Hertz serving Whitefish.

Montana's winter weather is milder than it's reputed to be: The high, dry, Rocky Mountain climate produces splendid powder snow, and periodic cold spells are frequently broken by mild weather when the famed Montana "chinooks" bring warm, dry air from the southwest to the downwind slopes of the major mountain ranges. Skiers often enjoy warm air on the slopes while cold air is hanging in the valleys below.



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31 Desert Mountain High Adventure

32 Sundance Lodge

33 Lakeview Guest Ranch

34 Crystal Lakes Resort

35 Holland Lake Lodge

36 Montana Sports Ranch

37 Bear Creek Ranch

38 Glacier National Park

39 Yellowstone National Park

For ski conditions and area information, call

406/449-2654

Non-residents call toll free:

1-800-548-3390

NORDIC SKIING

Photo courtesy of the Montana Historical Society

This old photograph of Upper Geyser Basin in Yellowstone National Park was taken in January 1887 by pioneer photographer Jack Haynes. Winter trips through Yellowstone at that time were so unusual that Haynes advertised his mid-winter views as the "beautiful results of several weeks' perilous work . . . sights rarely seen by man."

Winter trips are no longer either unusual or perilous, but the views are still beautiful and the sights, for all but Nordic skiers, are still uncommon. No other travel opens the winter landscape quite as satisfactorily as cross-country ski travel can, with only the silken swoosh-swoosh of skis to accent the stillness.

In Montana, you can order Nordic á la carte. Simply decide how you'd like to go, then go.

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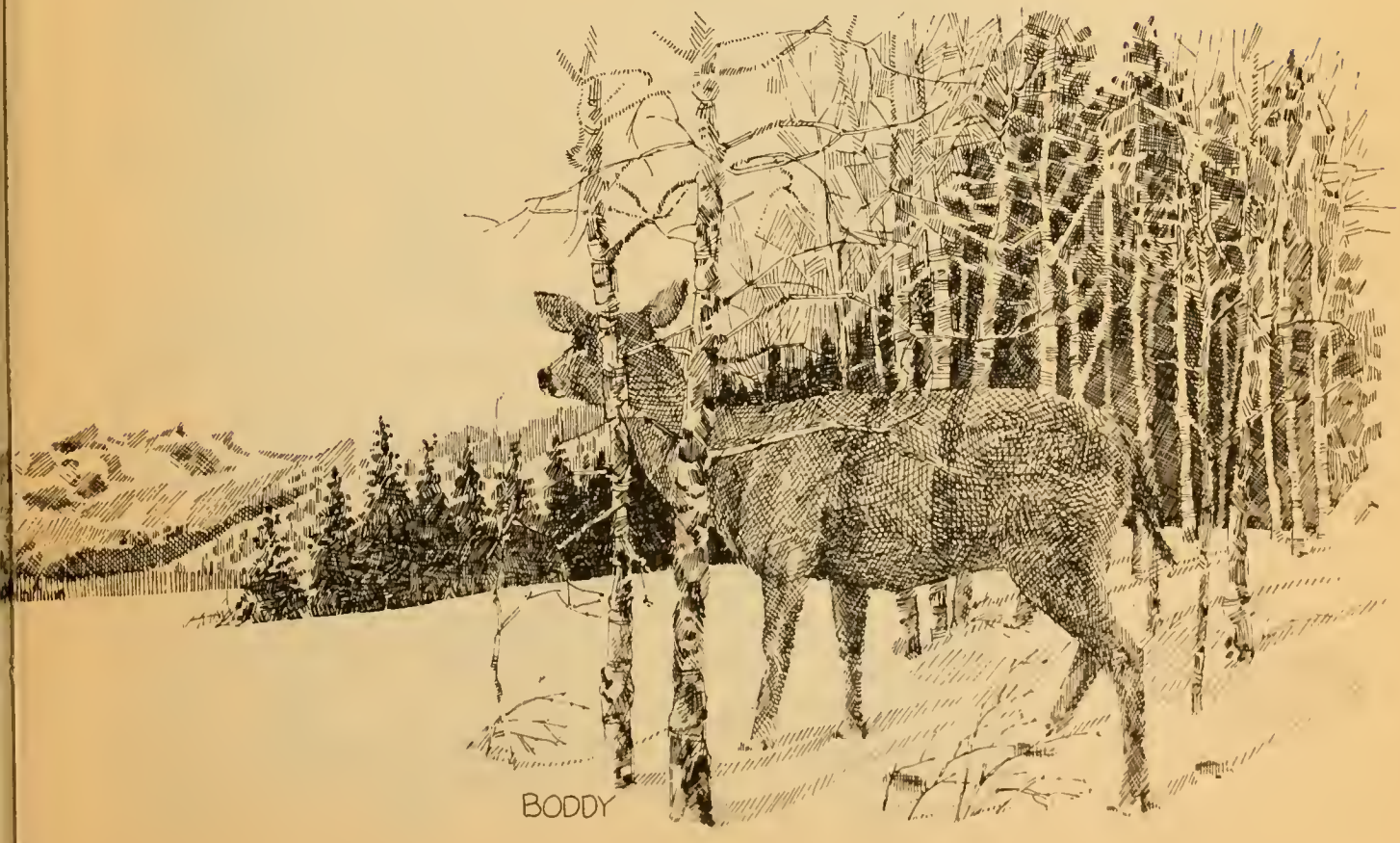
Try Nordic All the Way

18 Lone Mountain Guest Ranch

40 miles south of Bozeman, 20 miles northwest of Yellowstone National Park, at Big Sky of Montana. Phone 406/995-4644, or write Box 145, Big Sky, MT 59716. Reservations are mandatory. Ski from early December to mid-April on 35 miles of groomed and tracked ski trails. There are ranch-style accommodations for 45, and three fine chefs to assure a laden table. Guided trips are arranged three times a week into Yellowstone or the Spanish Peaks, and several-day trips into Yellowstone can be arranged. A one-week package (seven nights) including meals, lodging, fees and all ranch activities is $410 per person double occupancy. There is a $4 trail fee for using the trails if you're not a guest. Evening entertainment, a bar, ski lessons, and equipment and photo clinics are offered, and every Sunday you can ski by map to an on-the-snow gourmet lunch buffet. Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Bozeman — from there you can rent a car or take the Yellowstone bus to Big Sky and a free shuttle from Big Sky to the ranch.

19 Izaak Walton Inn

On U.S. 2 midway between East and West Glacier. Ask Operator for Essex No. 1, or write Box 675, Essex, MT 59916. Ski from Thanksgiving to mid-April on trails from the front door into Glacier National Park, Flathead National Forest or the Great Bear Wilderness Area. Lodge rooms are in an old railroad inn, and the attractions include a home-style menu, a bar and a Finnish sauna. Ski seminars are scheduled and instruction is available. A center for ski mountaineering and cross-country, the inn charges $22 a night for two people. Northwest Orient, Frontier and Western serve Great Falls; Frontier and Republic serve Kalispell. Car rentals are available in these cities and at Whitefish. AMTRAK serves West Glacier and Whitefish.



20 Flaming Arrow Ski Touring Centre

15 miles from Bozeman on Highway 86, one-half mile from Bridger Bowl on the Bridger Bowl road. Phone 406/586-8885, or write 15325 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715. Ski from mid-December to the end of March on 15 miles of groomed trails, with guided trips available and winter-skills overnight trips on request. Flaming Arrow has a ski school, sales and rentals, a snack bar and a bar in a pioneer ranch lodge. Accommodations and meals are available at the nearby Bridger Mountain Lodge or in Bozeman. A daily fee of $2 for adults and $1.50 for students and children is charged. Winter skills and avalanche clinics are held. Dogs are not permitted, and there is no snowmobiling at the centre.

21 Lost Horse Nordic Village

11 miles south of Hamilton on Highway 93, then 3.8 miles west on Lost Horse Creek Road. Phone 406/363-1516 or 406/777-5770, or write Box 1116, Hamilton, MT 59840. Ski from Thanksgiving through March on 40 to 50 miles of groomed trails. Flat-track skiing, back country ski mountaineering and telemark skiing are available. Inquire about guided day trips and overnight camp-outs. Instruction is available, and there are snow coach trips and horse-drawn sleigh rides with cookouts. Overnight accommodations in rustic cabins with fireplaces, and a hostel. There's a restaurant, and a bar with entertainment and live music for dancing on weekends. No track fee is charged for daily skiing. Inquire about accommodations, meals and ski-package rates. Winter activities will include the Gold West Territory Sled Dog Race and the first annual Ravalli County Winter Carnival.

Mix and Match Alpine and Nordic

(1) **Big Mountain** — limited cross-country terrain and telemark skiing at The Big Mountain. See entry on page 3 for further information.

(2) **Big Sky of Montana** — off-trail terrain to ski on and numerous trails near the resort. See Big Sky's entry on page 4 for additional information.

(5) **Discovery Basin** — good cross-country at Discovery and numerous cross-country trails in adjacent areas as well as at the affiliated Fairmont Hot Springs Resort. See entry on page 7 for additional information.

(9) **Lost Trail Ski Area** — virtually unlimited cross-country terrain. See entry on page 8 for additional information.

(6) **Marshall Mountain** — unlimited ski-touring, 15 miles of trails, and instruction. See entry on page 8 for additional information.

(7) **Maverick Mountain** — take the chair lift to the top for good telemark skiing on the hill, or enjoy cross-country trails between Maverick Mountain and Elkhorn Hot Springs Resort. See entry on page 8 for additional information.

(8) **Montana Snow Bowl** - telemark skiing. No groomed trails. See entry on page 8 for additional information.

(4) **Red Lodge Mountain** — seven miles of groomed and marked cross-country trails, and a five km course on top of the mountain with a $5 fee for whole-day lift use. See entry on page 6 for additional information.

(11) **Teton Pass** — good trails from the mountain, and sales and rentals of cross-country equipment are at the lodge. See entry on page 10 for additional information.

Ski and Soak at a Hot Springs Resort

22 Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Just off I-90, 22 miles west of Butte. Phone 406/797-3241, or write Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, Anaconda, MT 59711. Ski from December until April right at the resort, take a Fairmont bus to Discovery Basin or the Georgetown area for cross-country trails, or arrange for snowmobile trips into an overnight backcountry destination for a cross-country ski out. Accommodations in 190 rooms and suites. Dining room and coffee shop, cocktail lounge and cabaret, gift shop. Four hot mineral water pools, indoor and out. Saunas. No fee for X-C skiing. Sales and rentals. Rooms and transportation to skiing, $44 per person per day with lower rates for longer stays. Northwest Orient serves Butte, with car rentals available and Fairmont bus service from the terminal.

23 Lost Trail Hot Springs Resort

Six miles north of Lost Trail Pass on U.S. 93. Phone 406/821-3574, or write Box 37, Sula, MT 59871. Ski from Thanksgiving to the end of March, with no fee for skiing. Packed trails from the lodge or ski touring on your own. Accommodations in cabins are $32 double occupancy, $30 in the lodge, and $10 per bunk in the hostel (bring your own sleeping bag). No rentals available. The restaurant offers a full menu; if you're a guest, add $20 per day (double occupancy) for meals. A natural hot pool is outside and a hot whirlpool spa and sauna are inside. Fly Northwest Orient or Frontier to Missoula. Car rentals available there.

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24 Chico Hot Springs Resort

26 miles south of Livingston and 29 miles north of Yellowstone National Park on U.S. 89. Turn at Emigrant. Phone 406/333-4411, or write Chico Hot Springs at Pray, MT 59065. Take a guided, all-day cross country ski trip into Yellowstone National Park, tour Emigrant Gulch, ski about 15 miles of marked trails or ski right around the resort. Or try the ultimate — helicopter skiing into the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness Area. Ski from December to mid-April, with no fee for public skiing. The 1982 rates aren't set yet, but last year, rental equipment was $6.50 per day, group lessons were $4 per hour and private instruction was $10 per hour. Food is superlative and the bar is good. Enjoy mineral hot springs — one open pool and one indoor. Condominiums, or rooms in the old inn Continental style with the bathroom down the hall. Fly to Bozeman via Northwest Orient or Frontier, and rent a car or arrange for pick-up by Chico Hot Springs.

25 Elkhorn Hot Springs Resort

About 26 miles from Dillon on Highway 278. Turn on the marked road, then 13 miles. Phone 406/834-2416, or write Box 514, Polaris, MT 59746. Ski from Thanksgiving to the end of March on 30 km of groomed cross-country trails laid out on a marked cloverleaf, or to the top of Comet Mountain, or to the old Elkhorn Mine. For experts, there's an on-your-own mountaineering trip to a ghost town. No snowmobiling is permitted on cross-country trails, but you can sno-mo on about one hundred miles of groomed logging roads. Rates in the cabins (no water) are $16 per night for two. Restaurant, bar, Grecian sauna. Two outdoor hot mineral pools.

26 Sleeping Child Hot Springs Resort

Take U.S. 93 south of Missoula to Hamilton. Three miles south of Hamilton, turn on Highway 38 for one mile, then right on Highway 501 for eight miles. Phone 406/363-9910, or write Box 768, Hamilton, MT 59840. Ski from early December to April on logging roads and USFS trails, mostly unmarked and intermittently groomed. Rooms at the lodge are $36 to $49, double occupancy. Breakfasts and sandwiches only; no dinners. There is a bar, two outdoor hot tubs and all-night swimming in an outdoor hot pool.

27 Lolo Hot Springs

On U.S. 12, 35 miles from Missoula off U.S. 93. Phone Operator Lolo No. 1, or write Lolo Hot Springs, Lolo, MT 59847. Ski from Thanksgiving to April on groomed and marked trails. Lodging in the hotel and cottages is $26 for a single bed and $35 for two beds, double occupancy. Instruction and guided trips by arrangement. Restaurant and bar. Two indoor hot pools and one outdoor. Fly to Missoula via Northwest Orient or Frontier, and rent a car.

28 Jackson Hot Springs Lodge

48 miles from Lost Trail Pass and 18 miles from Wisdom, on Highway 278. Phone 406/834-2141, or write Box 808, Jackson, MT 59736. Ski from early November to mid-April on extensive ski trails, some marked and intermittently groomed. Ski and snowmobile trails are separate. No fee for skiing. Lodging in 18 cabins with fireplaces. Double occupancy rates are $24 per night for one bed, $28 per night for two beds. No rentals or instruction. Cafe. One large, enclosed, hot springs pool.

29 Boulder Hot Springs Hotel

30 miles south of Helena on I-15, then three miles south of Boulder on State 69. Phone 406/225-4272, or write the hotel at Boulder, MT 59632. Ski on marked trails in the Elkhorn Mountains (10 miles from hotel) or from the hotel. Ski and snowshoe rentals. For one person, lodging for two days and two nights is from $26 to $35. No food service, but the kitchen is available for cooking your own. Beer and wine bar. Massage therapy. Hot mineral pools — three indoor and one outdoor.

Ski a Dude Ranch

30 Burnt Leather Ranch

The last ranch up the West Boulder Road. Take Swingly Road one mile west of Livingston for about 20 miles, then turn on the West Boulder Road for 10 miles. Trails are marked, some are packed. Small groups only. Ride a horse-drawn sled from the lower ranch to the ski lodge. Cabins, lodge, recreation hall with pool and ping-pong tables. Meals served. Most trips are three to five days. Fly Northwest Orient or Frontier to Bozeman and rent a car or the ranch will pick you up. About $85 per day. Guides available. Phone 406/222-6795 or write the Ranch at McLeod 59052.

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31 Desert Mountain High Adventure

Four miles west of West Glacier on U.S. 2, then one-half mile south on a well-marked road. Phone 406/387-5610, or write Desert Mountain at Box 157, West Glacier, MT 59936. Ski Thanksgiving to March on 29 miles of groomed trails. No fee for skiing. Lodging in cabins and lodge with rates from $28 to $45. A weekend special is $50 for overnight, three meals and skiing. Dining, hot tub, heated pool, ski rentals. Two days of sled dog races in mid-January. Car rentals in Missoula, Kalispell and Whitefish. AMTRAK serves Whitefish, Northwest Orient and Frontier serve Missoula, Frontier and Republic serve Kalispell.

32 Sundance Lodge

Four miles west on Highway 274 between Wise River and Wisdom, off Highway 43. Phone 406/689-2491, or write the lodge at Wise River, MT 59762. Ski from Thanksgiving through March in the adjacent Pintler Mountains on USFS trails and on 255 acres at the ranch. Separate trails for skiers and snowmobilers. Rooms in the lodge are $30 per day, cabins are $36 to $40 per day. No fee charged for skiing. Restaurant, bar, ski rentals, horse-drawn sleigh rides.

33 Lakeview Guest Ranch

28 miles east of Monida on the Centennial Valley Road. Phone 406/494-2585, or write 2905 Harrison, Butte, MT 59701. Reservations required. Ski from early December to April on flat and alpine trails, go snowshoeing or snowmobiling. Rustic cabins and dorm-type accommodations, family-style meals. Inquire about rates for groups. Transportation to ranch by 10-12 passenger snow-coaches — phone 406/276-3300 to arrange booking.

A cozy cabin and friends are the right way to end an exhilarating day on the trail. (Montana Travel Promotion Bureau photo)

Ski a Resort

34 Crystal Lakes Resort

23 miles south of the Montana-British Columbia border, on U.S. 93. Phone 406/882-4455, or write Box 255, Fortine, MT 59918. Ski from late November to the end of March on groomed and marked trails around the resort, or on hundreds of wilderness miles. Inquire about rates for deluxe accommodations in condominium facilities. Instruction and guided trips by arrangement. Restaurant, bar, sales and rentals, hot tubs. Fly Frontier or Republic to Kalispell. Car rentals. Inquire about heli-skiing.

35 Holland Lake Lodge

20 miles north of Seeley Lake, turn right off Highway 83. Phone 406/754-2282, or write the lodge at Seeley Lake, MT 59868. Ski from mid-December to April on packed snowmobile trails and loop roads. Accommodations in the lodge are $20 per night. Family-style restaurant, bar, no ski rentals. Trail lunches available.

36 Montana Sports Ranch

40 miles north of Clearwater Junction on Highway 83, turn at the sign, drive one mile. Phone 406/754-2351, or write Box 501, Condon, MT 59826. Ski from Thanksgiving to April on two marked trails, almost unlimited USFS land, clear-cut areas for open skiing, and a small hill for telemark skiing. Snowmobiles on some trails. Lodge accommodations and family-style dining. Rates are $33 per day for meals and lodging and use of trails, discounts available for groups. Reservations preferred.

37 Bear Creek Ranch

17 miles west of East Glacier or 35 miles east of West Glacier on U.S. 2. Phone Shelby Operator and ask for Bear Creek No. 1, or write Box 151, East Glacier, MT 59434. Reservations required. Ski from January to April in Glacier National Park or into the Great Bear Wilderness (trails not maintained). Stay in cabins or the lodge, with family-style dining. Meals and lodging for two are $44 per day in the lodge, $49 per day in cabins.

Ski On Your Own

If you have sufficient skills to take to the hills in true ski touring style, Montana has splendid country to do it in. Most USFS wilderness ski touring trails are only intermittently groomed and are rarely patrolled, so standard ski-touring practices are the rule: Travel in groups of not less than four, carry an extra ski tip and a roll of stout tape, and put in your day-pack what you would need for an unexpected night out. And learn the ski-trail signs:

caution

trail closed

emergency telephone

easiest

more difficult

most difficult

You'll see more of Montana when you take to your own trails.
(Montana Travel Promotion Bureau photo)

In the Beaverhead National Forest, ski Grasshopper Ridge Trail from Elkhorn Hot Springs, 5.2 km of difficult and intermittently groomed trail.

In the Lolo and Clearwater National Forests, ski from Lolo Pass on four trails — Pack Creek (12.8 km of easy trail), Packer Meadow (4.8 km of easy trail), Pack Ridge Loop (4.8 of more difficult trail), and Lost Park Road (9.6 km of most difficult trail). All are intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles with the exception of 8 km of the Lost Park Road trail.

In the Flathead National Forest, ski from Izaak Walton Inn on the Essex Trail Complex for 22 km of easy trail, 6.6 km of more difficult and 5 km of most difficult, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Or ski Round Meadows 15 miles northwest of Whitefish for 15.6 km of easy trail, 5 km of more difficult, and 2 km of most difficult, all intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Cedar Lake Trail, 3.5 miles north of Columbia Falls, is 9 km of more difficult trail, intermittently groomed, dogs not allowed.

In the Gallatin National Forest, ski Stone Creek Trail 11 miles northeast of Bozeman for 6 km of easy trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Hyalite Reservoir Trail, 18 miles south of Bozeman, is 21 km of most difficult trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Bozeman Creek Loop, seven miles south of Bozeman at the Forest Boundary, is 14.5 km of more difficult trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles.

In the Helena National Forest, the MacDonald Pass trail 15 miles west of Helena offers 3.6 km of easy trail, 2.8 km of more difficult and 5.2 km of most difficult trail, all intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles.

In the Kootenai National Forest, Old Sears Flat Trail 6.1 miles west of Troy is 3.5 km of easy trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles and dogs. Bear Creek Trail five miles south of Libby is 1.5 km of easy trail and 2.5 km of more difficult terrain, intermittently groomed.

In the Lolo National Forest, Pattee Canyon Complex 5.5 miles southeast of Missoula has 1.5 km of easy trail, 2.8 km of more difficult and 5.7 km of most difficult trail, all intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. The Holloman/Plant Creek Loop trail 13 miles southeast of Missoula is 13 km of more difficult trail, intermittently groomed. The Seeley Creek Complex on the north edge of Seeley Lake has 21.5 km of easy trail, 31 km of more difficult and 50 km of most difficult trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles and dogs. The Mule Pasture Trail one-half mile north of Thompson Falls is one km of easy trail, intermittently groomed.

Write or call these USFS offices in Montana for more information: **Beaverhead National Forest,** 610 North Montana, Dillon, MT 59725. Phone 406/683-2312. **Bitterroot National Forest,** 316 N. Third, Hamilton, MT 59840. Phone 406/363-3131. **Flathead National Forest,** 1935 3rd Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901. Phone 406/755-5401. **Gallatin National Forest,** Box 130, Bozeman MT 59715. Phone 406/587-4233. **Helena National Forest,** Federal Building, Helena, MT 59626. Phone 406/449-5201. **Kootenai National Forest,** P.O. Box AS., Libby, MT 59923. Phone 406/293-6211. **Lolo National Forest,** Building 24, Ft. Missoula, Missoula, MT 59801. Phone 406/329-3557.

The **Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks** maintains seven km of developed cross-country trail at Echo Lakes, about 30 miles northwest of Anaconda off Highway 10-A.

On Highway 83 about nine miles south of Bigfork, opposite the Terrace Supper Club, **Northern Nordic** maintains a 10 km loop of flat track skiing for beginners and intermediates on Pacific Plywood Co. land, with no charge for skiing.

Ski A National Park

38 Glacier National Park

On the Montana-Canada border in northwestern Montana. Miles upon miles of excellent Nordic trails with spectacular scenery, uncrowded country and varied terrain. Snowmobiles are prohibited, and trails are quiet with wildlife to watch. Best skiing is on the west side and off U.S. 2 on the south rim of the park; east-side skiing trails are often subject to strong winds, and some are too long for day outings. Naturalist-guided cross-country ski trips geared to beginner and intermediate skiers are conducted every weekend during February and March. For information, write the Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936, or phone park headquarters at 406/888-5441, Apgar Information Center (open weekends) at 406/888-5512, or East Glacier at 406/226-4511.

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39 Yellowstone National Park

Reached in the winter only through the Montana entrances at Gardiner and West Yellowstone. Fine cross-country skiing around Old Faithful with accommodations at Snow Lodge. Skiers can ski in from West Yellowstone, take a snowmobile, or ride a Yellowstone snowcoach for all day or overnight. The famed geysers are even more spectacular in winter than in summer, the crowds have gone, and wintering wildlife — deer, elk, buffalo and an occasional moose or coyote — are thrilling to see and photograph. Nordic instruction is available. In the north of the park, good skiing is on snowfields or trails between Mammoth and Cooke City. Camping permits are required for overnight trips. For reservations at Old Faithful Snow Lodge and additional information about winter recreation in the geyser basin area, write Yellowstone Park Division, TWA Services, Inc., Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190, or phone 307/344-7311. For information about skiing in the Mammoth area or about the park itself, write the Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190, or phone 307/344-7381.

Discover Winter In A Winter Town

Montana rolls out a thousand miles of white carpet . . . a carpet of well groomed, well marked and spectacularly scenic trails for snowmobilers. (Montana Travel Promotion Bureau photo)

West Yellowstone bills itself as the Snowmobile Capital of the World, with 200 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. The only national snowmobile trail in the United States is at West Yellowstone — a 32-mile loop to Two-Top Mountain for a night out. Licensed snowmobile guide services (and rentals) are available from the Ranch Motel, phone 406/646-7388; Yellowstone Tour and Travel, phone 406/646-9310; Yellowstone Tours Unlimited, phone 406/646-7301; or from Jerry Schmier at Jerry's Enterprises, West Yellowstone, MT 59758. Cross-country skiing from West Yellowstone is excellent, with marked and unmarked trails into Yellowstone National Park and into the adjacent mountain areas. Guide services and ski rentals are available at Yellowstone Nordic, phone 406/646-7319, and from Yellowstone Rendezvous, phone 406/646-7712. This winter, the Great American Ski Chase Race for cross-country skiers is scheduled for January 24 on 50 km of fast trail.

Cooke City, with more than 30 miles of groomed trails right from town and more than 100 miles of groomed trails shared between Montana and Wyoming, is a snowmobile encounter of its own. Rent snowmobiles, get service for your own machine, or arrange for guide service through Don or Bev Weikart, Box 1128, Cooke City, MT 59020, phone 406/838-2244. There are family-oriented snowmobile rallies every month, excellent ski-mountaineering for Nordic enthusiasts, and game to view from the car caravans conducted by the National Park Service every winter Sunday through the Lamar Valley of northeast Yellowstone Park. The car caravans go from Gardiner to Cooke City and back again.

Lincoln, 60 miles northwest of Helena on Highway 200, has terrain for snowmobiling from flat to steep and about 200 miles of marked and groomed trails. Maps are available locally, and the Ponderosa Snow Warriors invite travelers to snowmobile to their clubhouse for coffee, hot chocolate and snacks every weekend. Tours and guided evening rides can be arranged. On the last weekend in January, the annual Snow-Cross is scheduled, with obstacle courses and slalom runs for snowmobiles. Nordic skiers find good trails, separate from snowmobile trails, on USFS and private land — not marked, but usually well-traveled. Phone Bob Didrikson at 406/362-4372, or write to him at Box 420, Lincoln, MT 59639.

Seeley Lake on Highway 83 is a winter recreation playground with hundreds of miles of snowmobile trails ranging from flat through gentle to steep. Rent snowmobiles or bring your own, arrange for guided trips to backcountry lakes, or go exploring. Numerous trails are marked for Nordic skiers, including trails into the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. Sled dog races are held in the area from January through March, and ice fishing all winter is splendid on seven great ice-fishing lakes. Write to Dan Cainin at Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0521 for further information, or phone him at 406/677-9219.

Lolo Pass Winter Sports Area is on U.S. 12 on the Montana-Idaho state line. There is no town on the pass, but food and lodging are just a few miles away. Ski and snowshoe trails range from 1.5 to eight miles long and are graded for skiers from beginners to advanced. And marked snowmobile routes are from 22 to 36 miles long over excellent terrain. The Visitor Center at Lolo Pass is open on weekends all winter with information for visitors. Parking and picnic tables are provided by the U.S. Forest Service.

Festivals, Races, and Other Merry Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
DECEMBER	YaHoo Days Snowmobile Fete	West Yellowstone
JANUARY		
2-3	Nordic championships X-C Race	Lost Horse Nordic Village
5	Torchlight Parade	Marshall Mountain
9	Ski-Tow Race (dog tows	Lost Horse Nordic Village skier)
16-17	Dog Sled Sprint Races	Elkhorn Hot Springs Resort
Mid-month	2-day Dog Sled Races	Desert Mountain High Adventure
23-24	Lost Trail Sled Dog Race	Lost Horse Nordic Village
24	Great American Chase Race (X-C)	West Yellowstone
30	Gold West Territory Sled Dog Championships	Lost Horse Nordic Village
30	Sled Dog Weight Pull	Lost Horse Nordic Village
30-31	Sled Dog Championships	Lost Horse Nordic Village
1/30-2/14	1st Annual Ravalli County Winter Carnival	Lost Horse Nordic Village
Date not set	Annual Snow-Cross	Lincoln
Date not set	Winter Fair	Bozeman
FEBRUARY		
6	Northwest Birkebiener X-C Race	Lost Horse Nordic Village
13-14	Tri-State Special Olympics (Montana, Idaho, Washington)	Lost Horse Nordic Village
15	National Gelende Jump Contest	Montana Snow Bowl
15	Snowmobile-a-vous	Seeley Lake
20-21	Coors Pro Race	Red Lodge Mountain
FEBRUARY		
Mid-month	Whitefish Winter Carnival	Whitefish and Big Mountain
Date not set	Anaconda Snow Fest Races	Wraith Hill
Date not set	Great Falls Winter Carnival	Showdown for races
Date not set	30-mile X-C Race	Two-Creek Ranch to Seeley Lake
Date not set	Winter Carnival	Lewistown
Date not set	Winter Carnival	Big Sky of Montana
MARCH		
1st weekend	Bikini Race	Maverick Mountain
6-7	Winter Carnival	Red Lodge Mountain
19	St. Patrick's Day Race	Bridger Bowl
19-21	Oly Days	Big Sky
Date not set	Spring Carnival	Belmont
APRIL		
10-11	Three-Jump Jackpot Pro Race	Red Lodge Mountain
Date not set	Belt Creek Headwaters Relay Race	Showdown
Throughout the winter	25th Annual Mitey-Mite Races (downhill, slalom and cross-country) for kids 12 and under	Beef Trail
	Telemark Races	Marshall Mountain
	Monthly Family Snow-Mo Races/Rallies	Cooke City

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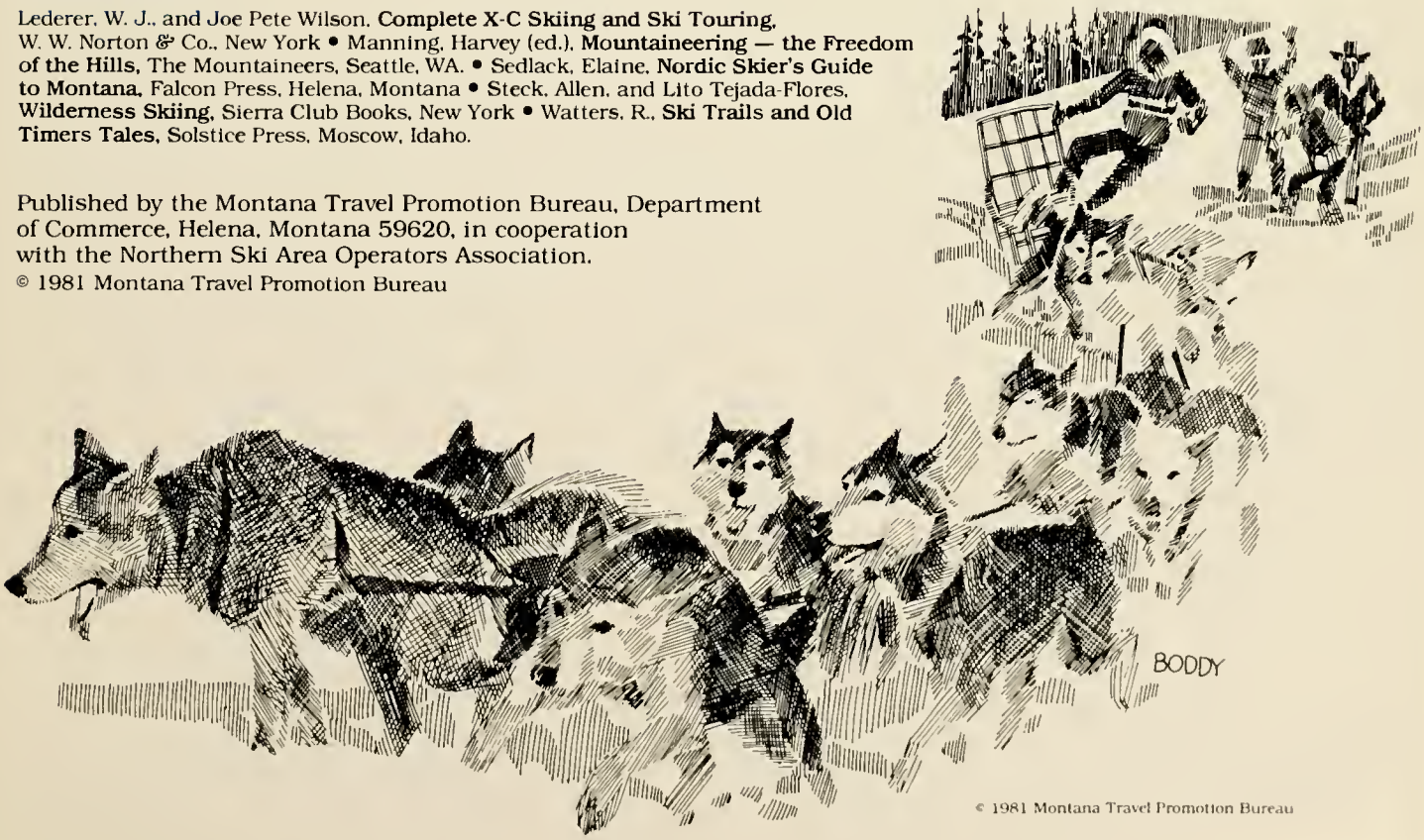

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